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Contributors, subscribers and readers will find important information on the sixteenth advertising page following the reading matter.

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## THE NOVEMBER BALLOT

The ballot that will be placed in the hands of each qualified voter of California that goes to the polls on November 2 will require considerable study to enable one to cast it intelligently. Besides selecting honest men and true for the national and state legislative bodies, presidential electors, judges and others to man parts of the government machinery, each voter will be called upon to give his final judgment upon anti-single tax measures, a land measure exempting all improvements on farms from taxation, a measure prohibiting insurance combinations and permitting banks to write insurance, a direct tax proposal offered by the University of California, a proposal to raise interest on highway bonds and make the substantial changes, an initiative measure raising the salaries of supreme court justices to \$10,000 and appellate court justices to \$9,000 a year, a repeal of criminal syndicalism, etc., etc., etc.

The entire list would require more than one summer day to read cursorily. How many will read it? How many will not read it?

Those who do not read and correctly interpret the effect of each measure on the ballot are taking desperate chances when they vote "Yes" for measures they do not understand. It is such careless voting that makes dangerous legislation possible. The plan adopted by prudent people is to vote "No" on every measure that they do not thoroughly understand and believe to be essential to the progress of the commonwealth.

A duty devolves upon those who do understand certain measures and recognize their dangerous character to inform as many voters as possible. This brings the November ballot and the issues of the campaign squarely before each of us. What are you doing to defeat anti-health and anti-medical legislation?

A special article by Dr. Alvarez on that important question will be found in this issue of the JOURNAL. All should read and follow the suggestions given in that article. If many voters during this campaign are deceived by specious and fallacious statements and misleading literature on medical and health subjects, whose fault will it be?

You have the right, you have the facts, you have the vast majority on your side. If you permit a small but active minority to pass pernicious legislation because of your inaction and indifference, you cannot escape your full share of the blame and the evil consequences.

## HEALTH INSURANCE AND PHYSICIANS

Under the title above, there has been issued a pamphlet written by Dr. Frederick R. Green, secretary of the Council on Health and Public Instruction of the American Medical Association, which embodies the best formulation of principles on this topic which we have yet seen. It should be in the hands of every physician and can be obtained from the headquarters of the American Medical Association. Aside from endorsing its conclusions, however, it is necessary to express sharp disagreement with the major premise with which the article opens. Dr. Green states: "\* \* \* social insurance is essentially an economic and not a medical question." And again, "A discussion of the details of medical service bears the same relation to the plan in general that the discussion of the interior decoration of a house bears to the question of the erection of the house itself." In these two statements are embodied a position which we, in California, do not accept and which we have constantly opposed.

We believe it self-evident that adequate medical service, in the sense which has many times been defined in these columns, is the right and due of